

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Monika Bulaj: The hidden light of Afghanistan | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/monika\\_bulaj\\_the\\_hidden\\_light\\_of\\_afghanistan](https://www.ted.com/talks/monika_bulaj_the_hidden_light_of_afghanistan)

### All Words

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### homeland

*n.* a place regarded as one's native country or where one belongs

*synonym*: motherland, native country, fatherland

(1) beloved **homeland**, (2) **homeland** pride

I miss my **homeland** and the familiar sights, sounds, and smells.

### tale

*n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure

*synonym*: canard, fiction, fable

(1) a fairy **tale**, (2) **tale** of horror

Ghosts in folk **tales** are almost always malicious.

### grave

*n.* a place where a dead body is buried, typically marked by a headstone or other memorial; a very serious, solemn, or important matter; (verb) to carve, cut, or etch a design, inscription, or mark onto a hard surface, such as stone or metal; (adjective) serious, solemn, or weighty in nature

*synonym*: tomb, crypt, sepulcher

(1) **grave** an image, (2) **grave** mistake

Many innocent civilians were killed and buried in mass **graves** outside the city during the war.

## deport

v. to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime

*synonym*: expel, banish, repatriate

(1) **deport** a refugee, (2) **deport** dissidents from the party

The government has decided to **deport** illegal immigrants back to their home countries.

## destruction

n. the act of causing so much damage to something

*synonym*: devastation, annihilation, ruin

(1) path of **destruction**, (2) cyclonic **destruction**

The extinction of several subspecies has been linked to climate change and habitat **destruction**.

## humble

adj. having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance

*synonym*: modest, unpretentious, abject

(1) a **humble** cottage, (2) **humble** opinion

The nobler, the more **humble**.

## pray

v. to make a request or petition to a higher power, especially in the form of a respectful or humble request

*synonym*: implore, supplicate, entreat

(1) **pray** devoutly, (2) **pray** for rain

She closed her eyes and **prayed** for strength to overcome difficult times.

## passport

n. an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel

*synonym*: travel document, ID, identity

(1) **passport** renewal, (2) **passport** document

Carrying a valid **passport** is mandatory when traveling to most foreign countries.

## yak

v. to talk at length, often without a particular purpose or direction; (noun) a long-haired bovine mammal native to central Asia that is often domesticated and used for its

meat, milk, and wool

*synonym* : chatter, cackle

(1) domestic **yak**, (2) sit and **yak** about life

The friends met at the local pub every Friday to **yak** about their week.

## hitchhike

*v.* to obtain a ride in a passing vehicle by signaling to the driver or waving one's thumb; to travel by getting a free ride in someone else's vehicle

*synonym* : thumb a ride, bum a ride

(1) **hitchhike** a ride, (2) **hitchhike** across the country

She had to **hitchhike** to the nearest gas station when her car broke down.

## corridor

*n.* a hallway or passageway, especially one connecting rooms or areas within a building or structure

*synonym* : hallway, passageway, aisle

(1) walk along a **corridor**, (2) air **corridor**

The long **corridor** was filled with people rushing to get to their rooms before the meeting began.

## interconnect

*v.* to connect similar things

*synonym* : interlink, complect, annex

(1) directly **interconnect** with those systems, (2) human activities **interconnect** with the environment

Our system can now **interconnect** with other databases.

## mystic

*adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension

*synonym* : secret, mystical, supernatural

(1) **mystic** teaching, (2) medieval **mystic**

He is interested in the **mystic** rites of that religion.

## mosque

*n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)

(1) domed **mosque**, (2) the sacred **mosque**

Jumeirah **Mosque** is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.

## blessing

*n.* a gift or favor from a higher power or force; an act or expression of approval, encouragement, or gratitude; something that brings happiness or good fortune

*synonym*: favor, benediction, boon

(1) count your **blessings**, (2) bestowed **blessings**

Receiving support from his friends was a great **blessing** in his time of need.

## pretension

*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

*synonym*: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

## medicinal

*adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

*synonym*: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

## nomad

*n.* a member of a group of people who move from place to place rather than living in one place all the time; a wanderer; a person with no fixed abode

*synonym*: wanderer, traveler, rover

(1) **nomad** worker, (2) **nomad** culture

The **nomad** tribe moved from place to place with its herd of sheep.

## prostitute

*n.* a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment

*synonym*: hooker, harlot, whore

(1) **prostitute** street, (2) a male **prostitute**

She turned to **prostitute** to make ends meet.

## businessperson

*n.* a person who is engaged in business, typically as an owner or executive

*synonym*: entrepreneur, executive

(1) a young **businessperson**, (2) **businessperson** network

He was a successful **businessperson** and had much experience in the field.

## nylon

*n.* a synthetic material used for making clothes, ropes, brushes, etc.

(1) **nylon** cloth, (2) **nylon** thread

We supply the military with durable vests made of **nylon**.

## burqa

*n.* a loose, enveloping outer garment worn by some Muslim women, particularly in Afghanistan and other conservative societies, covering the entire body, including the face, with a mesh screen for the eyes

*synonym*: veil, niqab, chador

(1) traditional **burqa**, (2) Islamic **burqa**

The woman in the bright blue **burqa** stood out in the crowd.

## underground

*adj.* under the surface of the ground; a secret group organized to achieve a specific purpose, such as overthrowing the government or occupying a force

*synonym*: subterranean, subsurface, confidential

(1) water flowing **underground**, (2) **underground** activist

Having **underground** parking has been very beneficial throughout the winter.

## scorpion

*n.* a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting

*synonym* : arachnid, stinger

(1) **scorpion** fish, (2) poisonous **scorpion**

The **scorpion's** venom can be lethal to humans.

## threat

*n.* a strong indication or likelihood of harm, danger, or adverse consequences; an expression of intent to inflict harm or injury on someone or something, often made as a means of coercion or intimidation

*synonym* : menace, danger, hazard

(1) economic **threat**, (2) environmental **threat**

The **threat** of severe weather prompted the city to issue an evacuation warning.

## nail

*n.* a thin, pointed piece of metal with a flat head used for fastening things together; the thin hard layer covering and protecting the outer tip of the fingers or toes

*synonym* : pin, tack, fastener

(1) rusty **nail**, (2) **nail** clipper

He used a hammer and round **nail** to fix the loose board on the fence.

## dare

*v.* to have the courage to do something

*synonym* : challenge, risk, attempt

(1) **dare** not go, (2) **dare** to take risks

I wouldn't **dare** to speak to him like that.

## aim

*v.* to try or plan to get or achieve something

*synonym* : aspire, direct, target

(1) **aim** at a specific target, (2) **aim** to be a nurse

We **aim** for an overseas expansion.

## silent

*adj.* without any or little sound

*synonym* : quiet, hushed, mute

(1) **silent** reading, (2) give **silent** consent

The politician remained **silent** despite intense media scrutiny.

## ignore

*v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to

*synonym*: neglect, disregard, shun

(1) **ignore** her advice, (2) **ignore** a ban

Since independence, the area has been completely **ignored**.

## prophet

*n.* a person believed to have an extraordinary power that can understand God's will.

*synonym*: oracle, visionary, seer

(1) false **prophet**, (2) words of the **prophet**

In this tribe, people believed the **prophet** would save them from many calamities.

## conflict

*n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals

*synonym*: clash, discord, competition

(1) the **conflict** between good and evil, (2) the longstanding **conflict**

He and I often had **conflicts**, not only in personality but also in ideology.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. my\_\_\_c teaching *adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension
2. air co\_\_\_\_or *n.* a hallway or passageway, especially one connecting rooms or areas within a building or structure
3. bestowed bl\_\_\_\_ngs *n.* a gift or favor from a higher power or force; an act or expression of approval, encouragement, or gratitude; something that brings happiness or good fortune
4. water flowing und\_\_\_\_\_nd *adj.* under the surface of the ground; a secret group organized to achieve a specific purpose, such as overthrowing the government or occupying a force
5. poisonous sc\_\_\_\_on *n.* a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting
6. a hu\_\_\_e cottage *adj.* having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance
7. pre\_\_\_\_\_on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 1. mystic, 2. corridor, 3. blessing, 4. underground, 5. scorpion, 6. humble, 7. pretension



8. pa\_\_\_\_\_rt document *n.* an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel
9. t\_\_e of horror *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
10. domed mo\_\_\_\_e *n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
11. hi\_\_\_\_\_ke across the country *v.* to obtain a ride in a passing vehicle by signaling to the driver or waving one's thumb; to travel by getting a free ride in someone else's vehicle
12. ig\_\_\_e a ban *v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
13. p\_\_y for rain *v.* to make a request or petition to a higher power, especially in the form of a respectful or humble request
14. a young bus \_\_\_\_\_son *n.* a person who is engaged in business, typically as an owner or executive
15. hi\_\_\_\_\_ke a ride *v.* to obtain a ride in a passing vehicle by signaling to the driver or waving one's thumb; to travel by getting a free ride in someone else's vehicle
16. the longstanding co\_\_\_\_\_ct *n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
17. baseless pre\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 8. passport, 9. tale, 10. mosque, 11. hitchhike, 12. ignore, 13. pray, 14. businessperson, 15. hitchhike, 16. conflict, 17. pretension

18. medieval my\_\_\_c *adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension
19. traditional me\_\_\_\_\_al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
20. Islamic bu\_\_a *n.* a loose, enveloping outer garment worn by some Muslim women, particularly in Afghanistan and other conservative societies, covering the entire body, including the face, with a mesh screen for the eyes
21. sc\_\_\_\_\_on fish *n.* a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting
22. gr\_\_e an image *n.* a place where a dead body is buried, typically marked by a headstone or other memorial; a very serious, solemn, or important matter; (verb) to carve, cut, or etch a design, inscription, or mark onto a hard surface, such as stone or metal; (adjective) serious, solemn, or weighty in nature
23. a fairy t\_\_e *n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
24. si\_\_\_t reading *adj.* without any or little sound
25. traditional bu\_\_a *n.* a loose, enveloping outer garment worn by some Muslim women, particularly in Afghanistan and other conservative societies, covering the entire body, including the face, with a mesh screen for the eyes

ANSWERS: 18. mystic, 19. medicinal, 20. burqa, 21. scorpion, 22. grave, 23. tale, 24. silent, 25. burqa



36. no\_\_d culture *n.* a member of a group of people who move from place to place rather than living in one place all the time; a wanderer; a person with no fixed abode
37. walk along a co\_\_\_\_or *n.* a hallway or passageway, especially one connecting rooms or areas within a building or structure
38. economic th\_\_\_\_t *n.* a strong indication or likelihood of harm, danger, or adverse consequences; an expression of intent to inflict harm or injury on someone or something, often made as a means of coercion or intimidation
39. und\_\_\_\_nd activist *adj.* under the surface of the ground; a secret group organized to achieve a specific purpose, such as overthrowing the government or occupying a force
40. me\_\_\_\_al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
41. give si\_\_\_\_t consent *adj.* without any or little sound
42. bus\_\_\_\_son network *n.* a person who is engaged in business, typically as an owner or executive
43. count your bl\_\_\_\_ngs *n.* a gift or favor from a higher power or force; an act or expression of approval, encouragement, or gratitude; something that brings happiness or good fortune
44. cyclonic des\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of causing so much damage to something
45. a male pro\_\_\_\_te *n.* a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment

ANSWERS: 36. nomad, 37. corridor, 38. threat, 39. underground, 40. medicinal, 41. silent, 42. businessperson, 43. blessing, 44. destruction, 45. prostitute

46. hu\_\_\_e opinion *adj.* having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance
47. ho\_\_\_\_\_nd pride *n.* a place regarded as one's native country or where one belongs
48. d\_\_e to take risks *v.* to have the courage to do something
49. the co\_\_\_\_\_ct between good and evil *n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
50. n\_\_l clipper *n.* a thin, pointed piece of metal with a flat head used for fastening things together; the thin hard layer covering and protecting the outer tip of the fingers or toes
51. pa\_\_\_\_\_rt renewal *n.* an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel
52. de\_\_\_t a refugee *v.* to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime
53. ny\_\_n thread *n.* a synthetic material used for making clothes, ropes, brushes, etc.
54. environmental th\_\_\_t *n.* a strong indication or likelihood of harm, danger, or adverse consequences; an expression of intent to inflict harm or injury on someone or something, often made as a means of coercion or intimidation
55. ig\_\_\_e her advice *v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to

ANSWERS: 46. humble, 47. homeland, 48. dare, 49. conflict, 50. nail, 51. passport, 52. deport, 53. nylon, 54. threat, 55. ignore

56. a\_m at a specific target      *v.* to try or plan to get or achieve something
57. domestic y\_k      *v.* to talk at length, often without a particular purpose or direction; (noun) a long-haired bovine mammal native to central Asia that is often domesticated and used for its meat, milk, and wool
58. gr\_\_e mistake      *n.* a place where a dead body is buried, typically marked by a headstone or other memorial; a very serious, solemn, or important matter; (verb) to carve, cut, or etch a design, inscription, or mark onto a hard surface, such as stone or metal; (adjective) serious, solemn, or weighty in nature
59. a\_m to be a nurse      *v.* to try or plan to get or achieve something
60. ny\_\_n cloth      *n.* a synthetic material used for making clothes, ropes, brushes, etc.
61. p\_\_y devoutly      *v.* to make a request or petition to a higher power, especially in the form of a respectful or humble request
62. the sacred mo\_\_\_e      *n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
63. de\_\_\_t dissidents from the party      *v.* to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime
64. beloved ho\_\_\_\_nd      *n.* a place regarded as one's native country or where one belongs

ANSWERS: 56. aim, 57. yak, 58. grave, 59. aim, 60. nylon, 61. pray, 62. mosque, 63. deport, 64. homeland

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Receiving support from his friends was a great \_\_\_\_\_ in his time of need.  
*n.* a gift or favor from a higher power or force; an act or expression of approval, encouragement, or gratitude; something that brings happiness or good fortune
  
2. I wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ to speak to him like that.  
*v.* to have the courage to do something
  
3. She had to \_\_\_\_\_ to the nearest gas station when her car broke down.  
*v.* to obtain a ride in a passing vehicle by signaling to the driver or waving one's thumb; to travel by getting a free ride in someone else's vehicle
  
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.  
*adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
  
5. He and I often had \_\_\_\_\_ not only in personality but also in ideology.  
*n.* a strong disagreement, argument, or a violent clash between two opposing groups or individuals
  
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ of severe weather prompted the city to issue an evacuation warning.  
*n.* a strong indication or likelihood of harm, danger, or adverse consequences; an expression of intent to inflict harm or injury on someone or something, often made as a means of coercion or intimidation
  
7. We \_\_\_\_\_ for an overseas expansion.  
*v.* to try or plan to get or achieve something

ANSWERS: 1. blessing, 2. dare, 3. hitchhike, 4. medicinal, 5. conflicts, 6. threat, 7. aim



8. I miss my \_\_\_\_\_ and the familiar sights, sounds, and smells.  
*n.* a place regarded as one's native country or where one belongs
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ tribe moved from place to place with its herd of sheep.  
*n.* a member of a group of people who move from place to place rather than living in one place all the time; a wanderer; a person with no fixed abode
10. Ghosts in folk \_\_\_\_\_ are almost always malicious.  
*n.* a story made up in someone's imagination, especially one full of action and adventure
11. Our system can now \_\_\_\_\_ with other databases.  
*v.* to connect similar things
12. In this tribe, people believed the \_\_\_\_\_ would save them from many calamities.  
*n.* a person believed to have an extraordinary power that can understand God's will.
13. The friends met at the local pub every Friday to \_\_\_\_ about their week.  
*v.* to talk at length, often without a particular purpose or direction; (noun) a long-haired bovine mammal native to central Asia that is often domesticated and used for its meat, milk, and wool
14. Carrying a valid \_\_\_\_\_ is mandatory when traveling to most foreign countries.  
*n.* an official document issued by a government used to verify the identity and nationality of a person for international travel
15. Having \_\_\_\_\_ parking has been very beneficial throughout the winter.  
*adj.* under the surface of the ground; a secret group organized to achieve a specific purpose, such as overthrowing the government or occupying a force

ANSWERS: 8. homeland, 9. nomad, 10. tales, 11. interconnect, 12. prophet, 13. yak, 14. passport, 15. underground

16. The government has decided to \_\_\_\_\_ illegal immigrants back to their home countries.
- v.* to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime
17. The long \_\_\_\_\_ was filled with people rushing to get to their rooms before the meeting began.
- n.* a hallway or passageway, especially one connecting rooms or areas within a building or structure
18. We supply the military with durable vests made of \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a synthetic material used for making clothes, ropes, brushes, etc.
19. Since independence, the area has been completely \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
20. His \_\_\_\_\_ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
- n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
21. He is interested in the \_\_\_\_\_ rites of that religion.
- adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension
22. She closed her eyes and \_\_\_\_\_ for strength to overcome difficult times.
- v.* to make a request or petition to a higher power, especially in the form of a respectful or humble request

ANSWERS: 16. deport, 17. corridor, 18. nylon, 19. ignored, 20. pretensions, 21. mystic, 22. prayed

23. Jumeirah \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.
- n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
24. He was a successful \_\_\_\_\_ and had much experience in the field.
- n.* a person who is engaged in business, typically as an owner or executive
25. The nobler, the more \_\_\_\_\_.
- adj.* having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance
26. He used a hammer and round \_\_\_\_\_ to fix the loose board on the fence.
- n.* a thin, pointed piece of metal with a flat head used for fastening things together; the thin hard layer covering and protecting the outer tip of the fingers or toes
27. She turned to \_\_\_\_\_ to make ends meet.
- n.* a person, typically a woman, who engages in sexual activity in exchange for payment
28. The woman in the bright blue \_\_\_\_\_ stood out in the crowd.
- n.* a loose, enveloping outer garment worn by some Muslim women, particularly in Afghanistan and other conservative societies, covering the entire body, including the face, with a mesh screen for the eyes
29. The politician remained \_\_\_\_\_ despite intense media scrutiny.
- adj.* without any or little sound
30. Many innocent civilians were killed and buried in mass \_\_\_\_\_ outside the city during the war.
- n.* a place where a dead body is buried, typically marked by a headstone or other memorial; a very serious, solemn, or important matter; (verb) to carve, cut, or etch a design, inscription, or mark onto a hard surface, such as stone or metal; (adjective) serious, solemn, or weighty in nature

ANSWERS: 23. Mosque, 24. businessperson, 25. humble, 26. nail, 27. prostitute, 28. burqa, 29. silent, 30. graves

31. The extinction of several subspecies has been linked to climate change and habitat \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* the act of causing so much damage to something

32. The \_\_\_\_\_ venom can be lethal to humans.

*n.* a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting

ANSWERS: 31. destruction, 32. scorpion's